

THE HERALD

SUNDAY, - SEPTEMBER 7, 1884

TWELVE PAGES

THE DAILY HERALD is published every morning, Mondays excepted, at the Herald Office, corner West Temple and First South Streets, Salt Lake City, by the DAILY HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY. Subscription price, \$10.00 per annum, postage included; parts of the year at the same rate. To weekly subscribers, collections made by carriers, 25 cents week.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY HERALD is published every Wednesday and Saturday morning, at \$3.50 a year; six months, \$1.75; postage included.

THE WEEKLY HERALD is published every Thursday morning at \$2.50 a year; six months, \$1.25; postage included.

A LESSON-LIBERALISM EXEMPLIFIED.

A meeting of the property owners of the Eighth School District, called for the purpose of voting on the proposition to levy a tax of one-half of one per cent. for school purposes, was held on Friday evening. The official notice had been duly published, but it seemed not to attract the attention of the majority of the taxpayers, or if it did attract their attention they did not deem the matter of sufficient importance to demand their attendance. The "Liberal" property-owners of the district, however, took notice of the event, and organizing for opposition, went to the meeting en masse, captured it and by an overwhelming majority, defeated the tax proposition. There is a very large sized moral in the business, and one which should be heard elsewhere than in the Eighth precinct. THE HERALD has persistently urged voters to attend elections and property owners to be present at school meetings, predicting that their negligence would result as the Friday night affair did, when an insignificant minority, by organization and devotion to the business in hand, captured the majority. If the "Liberals," last August, had not been as careless and negligent as the People's party, and had been active and shrewd in their operations, they might have almost carried the county election. The property-owners of the Eighth district will not be caught napping again in the matter of voting a school tax; the People's voters may require a similar experience to arouse them to the importance and necessity of performing their whole duty to themselves and the community. Experience is a dear school, but knowledge gained in it is usually lasting.

As to the outcome of the Eighth Ward meeting, it simply illustrates the falsity of the claim that the "Liberals" are in favor of education. They have all the time assumed and asserted that the Mormons were opposed to schools and popular education, and have endeavored to make a point against the Saints on this claim. The misleading and fraudulent character of the charge has been many times exposed, and on Friday evening the "Liberals" gave the flat contradiction to their boasted virtue in the matter of education. The Mormons to a man were found voting for the school tax, and the "Liberals" against it. Consistency is not and never has been a "Liberal" characteristic. The party platform is opposition to the majority in all things, whether right or wrong, and they stand firmly on the platform on all occasions, no matter how ridiculous the appearance they present.

REGISTRATION MATTERS.

The election law provides that every other year, during the week beginning the second Monday in September, the registration lists shall be revised for the purposes of the Delegate election. The week for doing this work will begin tomorrow morning, when the registration officers should and probably will be at their respective offices or at other stated places, for the purpose of swearing and registering those who are entitled to vote, but whose names are not on the list. The last registration was in June. Since then many men and women have attained their majority, and others have moved from the precincts in which they formerly voted. All these should make it their business during the week to see that they are properly registered. The duty cannot be performed after next Saturday, when the lists will be closed as regards the Delegate election in November.

In this connection it is suggested that somebody make it his business

to see that the several registration lists are revised between now and the five days previous to election as provided by law. The lists are growing very rapidly—much faster in fact than the voters are increasing. This occurs by names being added and none stricken off. We have heard that the list in a certain precinct shows the names of between 200 and 300 persons who are not in the district and who have not been there for two or three years past. There is perhaps not a list in the Territory which does not contain the names of persons not entitled to vote, who have left the country, moved to other precincts or otherwise disqualified themselves. The presence of these names on the lists opens the door to fraud, and in case of a close vote and partisan judges might overrun the will of the majority. The law is plain as to how these names are to be gotten off the lists; but if nobody is sufficiently interested in the matter to take the necessary steps for their revision, the work will not be done. It would be neither difficult nor expensive to ascertain, especially in the close precincts, just who are entitled to vote, and it strikes us the matter is of sufficient importance to demand the attention of the People's party.

PROBABLY FALSE.

For his own sake, as well as for the sake of the convention that nominated him, it is hoped that Governor Hendricks did not make the statement that is credited to him in our telegraphic columns, to the effect that if he had been placed first on the Democratic ticket he would have had the support of Ben Butler. It is unpleasant to think a great and good man, as Hendricks is, can manifest the petty jealousy that his remark indicates. Governor Hendricks was grand and patriotic enough to accept the second place on the ticket, and he entered upon the campaign in a generous, whole-souled manner which caused him to loom up in the eyes of his party and the country as a grand old hero; every one knew he did not want the nomination, but having taken it, manhood, as well as political wisdom, should have suggested the propriety of manifesting no disappointment or discontent. We do not believe Governor Hendricks was so unwise or so ungenerous as to make the boasting but jealous remark attributed to him.

As to the support of Ben Butler, no honest man could esteem it either creditable to him as an individual or useful as a candidate. There is a suggestion of trickery, of political immorality, in being in any way associated with Ben Butler, and to have his good will and support in a campaign is almost equivalent to an admission that the candidate is devoid of political integrity, and without honor.

SUMNER HOWARD IN ARIZONA.

Chief Justice Sumner Howard is said to be at the bottom of the raid being made upon the Mormons in Arizona. He has an object in view, his aim as usual, being selfish. It may not be known in Arizona, but Judge Howard has been and is anxious to go to Congress from Michigan; twice he has been an earnest, urgent applicant for the nomination, and on both occasions his unsavory record as district attorney of Utah has come up to face and defeat him. He came to this Territory a comparatively poor man, and after a brief and inglorious career, during which he played fast and loose with individuals, parties and people with whom he came in official contact, he returned to Michigan in good financial circumstances, bought a valuable farm, built a fine house, drove fast horses, and lived in the style of the rich. Whenever he has come before his neighbors for political honors and preferment, he has had to listen to the accusations of having used his office here corruptly, and the wealth with which he has surrounded himself gives an air of plausibility to the charge, for people do not understand how a man can get rich in two or three years from a \$3,000 salary, when his legitimate income is consumed by his necessary expenses. Our esteemed morning contemporary, which is now an ardent admirer of Judge Howard, has also unwillingly been made to do good service in defeating his ambitious purpose. Old copies of the Tribune in which District Attorney Howard is accused of having "sold out" to the Mormons, and charged with bribe-taking and corruption, have been industriously circulated

in his district, where the people do not know the character of the paper for truth and veracity, and where nothing is known of its utter disregard for the rule of consistency. Perhaps the issue following the one in which the district attorney was accused of having sold himself to the Mormons, he would be praised for his honesty, integrity and faithfulness in fighting the Saints, and all that was before said against him retracted as a libel into which the editor had been unwittingly led. Whether or not Howard was for sale or sold himself, he has the credit of making money irregularly through favoritism towards the Mormons, though wherein he was ever fair with them we have never been able to learn. To overcome this impression and plant himself squarely in opposition to the Mormons, he sought the chief justiceship of this Territory last winter, and had it not been for the prompt, earnest and united protest of the bar, his nomination would have been made by the President. Failing here, the next most promising field open to him was Arizona, where he could find Mormons who could be used to help him make up a record to be presented to the voters of his congressional district in Michigan.

It is possible wrong motives are attributed to him, and that he will be simply honest and conscientious in the administration of the laws in our neighbor Territory; but his career in Utah proved him to be a man who would bear watching; he had the reputation, whether true or false, of being venal and corrupt, and it does no harm to distrust men of his kind of fame watching for the motive in all their actions. If he is the instigator of the persecutions of Mormons in Arizona, it is not because there is anything in their religion that is repugnant to him but for the reason that he expects to make more, either directly or indirectly, from pursuing an anti-Mormon course than from being friendly to the Saints. We will admit venturing a bad guess if Judge Howard does not retire from the bench in time to make a struggle for the Congressional nomination two years hence.

BE REASONABLE.

Utah is not a State, and some of its enemies who profess to be far-seeing are bold enough to announce that it never will be until social conditions hereabout are entirely changed and the respective positions of the political parties reversed, so that the present majority shall be relegated to the rear and the minority occupy the front seats. Perhaps this is true, perhaps not.

It is not a little singular that those who are so devoutly "American" and who claim to be the only class which fights under the national banner in the Territory, should so persistently and continuously advocate principles so utterly at variance with the theory and practical procedure of American government. Ours is a nation in which the will of the majority is the supreme law; the minority cannot be deprived of any rights which the fundamental principles of our organization guarantee to all, and legislation must not be detrimental to those who failed to elect the legislators merely because of their lack of numbers. If unwise, injudicious or unconstitutional laws are enacted, the minority have their remedy in the courts, and these, together with the monstrous and overruling power of public opinion being at all times a sufficient counterpoise to bring the opposing forces into an equilibrium condition. If this be true—and we are unable to see wherein or how it can be successfully denied—the fact of one or another party's prevalence would seem to be rather more of an incident than a conclusion, more of an event in the onward march of our species in the direction of a common destiny than a condition marking the triumph of the many at the expense of the few.

Where conflicting ideas prevail, parties are formed as a natural consequence, the object of such organizations being the establishment of those conditions which the more numerous believe to be right and the suppression of such as they hold to be wrong. If they did not prevail in a numerical and at least temporary way, the theory of our institutions would be destroyed and the practice thereof set aside entirely. But a political victory by no means destroys the legal, moral and social rights of the defeated, any more than it invests the defeated

with the right to deny the right of the victors to rule till dethroned by the popular voice.

Elsewhere, political organizations abide by unsatisfactory results if legally and properly accomplished, and make of a temporary disappointment, the stimulus by means of which greater activity shall be infused into their subsequent efforts to gain supremacy. In Utah, the minority ask for the subversion of Republican rule, for the setting aside of all the principles characterizing American procedure, and the placing of themselves at the head of the column by means of plans hitherto unheard of and totally at variance with natural rights and constitutional power, arguing by means of words, words, words, that those who oppose such a programme are alien, un-American and anti-Republican. Strange logic, this.

If, for the sake of the argument, it be admitted that unwholesome laws are enacted by the local legislature; that exclusiveness and partiality prevail in many departments of our local civil service; that special favors are granted to friends and some few assumed rights denied to opponents—what then? Would this state of affairs, even if existing, show that we in Utah are one whit behind other communities in such respects? Can the most industrious and far-reaching Liberal in the ranks point to an instance wherein a political party did not bestow its favors upon its adherents in preference to others, or cite a case where those who dispense patronage and make decisions did not lean more strongly towards their friends than their adversaries? We should say not; and yet this sort of thing, according to the reasoning of a majority of the Liberals, is peculiar to Utah, whereas, it is not peculiar to any part of the country or any class of people.

Congress cannot legislate minorities into majorities without committing political crime; the Liberal party cannot gain the ascendancy here without such crime being committed, so they say; so, to further illustrate their consistency, they ask that this crime be committed in one breath and in the next condemn what they are pleased to term the crimes of those against whom they are arrayed. Truly we are a peculiar people!

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